

# 3

## Park Orchards Community House & Learning Centre



### Term 3, 2026 Courses & Activities

#### New Courses & Workshops



##### Terrarium Workshop

**POPULAR**



Discover the art of creating your own mini living garden! In this beginner-friendly workshop, you will learn how to layer soil, pebbles, moss, and a variety of plants to build a thriving and beautiful terrarium. With step-by-step guidance on plant care, arrangement, and design, you will take home your own small glass terrarium—a unique and vibrant piece of greenery perfect for brightening your home or giving as a thoughtful handmade gift. All materials provided.

Saturday 1 August, 10:00am - 12:00pm

\$95

##### Men's Fitness & Wellness



A welcoming program for men to build fitness, confidence, and connection in a supportive environment. Sessions combine beginner-friendly strength training and High Intensity Interval Training (HIIT) circuits with practical wellbeing information and conversations focused on health, nutrition, and wellbeing. Led by a qualified trainer and wellbeing coach, this program is designed to support both physical and mental wellbeing in a relaxed, supportive setting. No fitness experience is needed, just come along and move at your own pace. *More details to come! Please head to our website and make sure you register your interest to be placed on the waitlist.*

##### Needle Felting – Pocket Pals Workshop

Join us for a gentle and uplifting morning of creativity as you discover the art of needle felting. Using soft, natural wool, you will craft your own Pocket Pal or Pocket Goddess — a small, meaningful creation reflecting your personal style and imagination. Perfect for beginners, this mindful hands-on workshop is ideal for anyone wanting to explore a new craft and enjoy a creative morning in good company. All tools and materials are provided, including a take-home felting kit so you can continue exploring this beautiful craft at home.

Saturday 25 July, 10:00am - 1:00pm

\$75

##### Needle Felting – Medicine Doll Workshop **NEW**



Create your own unique Medicine Doll in this mindful needle felting workshop using natural wool and found objects from nature. Handcrafted across many cultures for hundreds of years, these dolls are designed to reflect the intentions, personality, and creativity of their maker. Suitable for beginners and those wanting to build on existing felting skills, this nurturing hands-on session offers the opportunity to slow down, create, and explore this beautiful craft. All tools and materials are provided, and you'll take home a felting kit to continue your creative journey.

Saturday 22 August, 10:00am - 4:00pm

\$150

Needle Felting Toolkit

\$20 (optional)

##### Graphite Workshop with Peta Harrington

Discover the art of creating stunning greyscale nature drawings with H and HB pencils in this one-day workshop! Perfect for both beginners and experienced artists, this hands-on session will guide you through essential shading and blending techniques to bring depth and realism to your work. You'll start by practicing fundamental skills before applying them to draw beautifully detailed gum leaves. A small materials list will be provided upon enrolment. Come along and elevate your drawing skills in a relaxed environment!

Saturday 29 August, 9:30am - 3:30pm

\$125

##### Loneliness Awareness Week

**SPECIAL EVENT**

Free community afternoon tea, 6 August. See inside for more details!

# Learn Local – Pre-accredited Training



Learn Local courses can help you get the skills you need for study, work and life. Learn Local courses are government subsidised and are offered at low or no cost to eligible Victorian adults. Class sizes are small, with training delivered by highly experienced professionals in a relaxed environment. **Check our website for more details or contact us.**

## Canva for Beginners (Online)

POPULAR



Gain confidence creating beautiful, eye-catching designs with Canva. Learn to navigate the platform, use templates, apply colour and typography, edit photos, and design for social media. You'll finish with your own custom project such as a poster, flyer, or social media post made entirely from scratch.

Thursday 30 July - 17 September, 7:00pm - 9:00pm (via Zoom), 8 weeks

Special price \$50 (Concession \$20\*)

### How to Use AI

Curious about artificial intelligence but not sure where to begin? This friendly, hands-on course is perfect for beginners wanting to explore the possibilities of AI. Learn how AI tools can make everyday tasks easier and more enjoyable, like planning trips, writing emails, finding recipes, or managing simple digital tasks. The course also covers how to use AI safely and responsibly, with practical tips on privacy, online safety, and building confidence in the digital world.

Monday 27 July - 14 September, 12:30pm - 2:30pm, 8 weeks

\$15 (Concession \$5\*)

## Introduction to Creative Writing (Self-paced) **FREE**

Over the duration of this practical yet creative course, you'll engage in a variety of writing exercises and receive personalised feedback on your work. This course is delivered via a flexible online format and allows you to learn at your own pace, making it easy to fit into your schedule!

Wednesday 22 July - 9 September, Flexible online format, self-paced

## Storytelling for Writers **FREE**



Take the next step in your creative writing journey in this relaxed and inspiring self-paced course. Delve deeper into storytelling techniques including voice, dialogue, genre, perspective and editing while experimenting with new ideas and writing styles. Weekly lesson packs and prompts will encourage you to build confidence, develop your creativity, and discover new ways to bring your stories to life. Suitable for both returning and new writers.

Wednesday 22 July - 9 September, Flexible online format, self-paced

\*Concession prices for ACFE courses are capped at \$50 tuition per calendar year. Course fees may incur additional costs such as administration, materials, amenities, etc. For more information about the fee structure for pre-accredited courses please speak to one of our friendly staff.

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9876 4381

## Mental Health for Everyday Life

NEW

This introductory course is designed for carers, volunteers and those who want to build a stronger understanding of mental health. Explore common mental health challenges, recovery-oriented and trauma-informed principles, and practical ways to recognise and respond to distress with empathy and confidence. Through discussion and guided activities, develop communication skills and strategies to support others in everyday situations while learning how to protect and care for your own wellbeing.

### Face-to-face

Monday 27 July - 31 August, 10:30am - 12:30pm, 6 weeks

\$65 (Concession \$35\*)

### Online

Wednesday 29 July - 2 September, 7:00pm - 9:00pm, 6 weeks

\$65 (Concession \$35\*)



## Floristry

Learn floral design skills—from wrapping and tying to arranging and more. Create a variety of beautiful floral arrangements while learning colour harmony and proper care techniques. Make a new piece each week, including charming hand-tied posies, elegant gift boxes, and exquisite corsages. Our hands-on approach ensures practical experience, working directly with a diverse selection of flowers and foliage. Build both confidence and creativity as you learn to handle and arrange materials with precision and flair. All flowers and materials are included, with an optional \$30 toolkit available to keep.

### Introduction to Floristry

Tuesday 28 July - 15 September, 10:00am - 12:00pm, 8 weeks

\$255 (Concession \$200\*)

### Level 1 Floristry

Tuesday 28 July - 15 September, 12:30pm - 2:30pm, 8 weeks

\$255 (Concession \$200\*)



## Need Training for Your Group?

We offer tailored training opportunities for established groups, including community groups, volunteers, staff teams, and local organisations. If your group is interested in one of the courses advertised here - or training in another area - we would love to discuss how we can support your learning needs. Contact us to enquire about community partnership training opportunities.

[www.parkorchards.org.au](http://www.parkorchards.org.au)  
[enrol@parkorchards.org.au](mailto:enrol@parkorchards.org.au)

## All Abilities Courses

Designed for people with additional learning needs, these courses build communication, literacy, numeracy, confidence, and social skills. Activities are tailored to individual goals. Carers, support workers, and assistance animals are welcome. Free trial offered.



## Let's Cook!

Build confidence in the kitchen and learn to prepare a variety of recipes that are simple to make and tasty to eat! Learn basic cooking skills and food safety, then enjoy the meal you have made with the group. All ingredients included.

Friday 17 July - 18 September, 9:30am - 12:00pm, 10 weeks  
\$180 per term\*

## Creative Art

Explore a wide range of art materials, including watercolour, acrylics, clay, and mixed media, while creating your own unique artworks in a supportive, social environment. Learn new techniques, and enjoy expressing your creativity. All materials are provided.

Friday 17 July - 18 September, 12:45pm - 2:45pm, 10 weeks  
\$120 per term\*

## Creative Writing (Self-paced)

**FREE**

Write at your own pace with this online, accessible course. Lessons, exercises and personalised feedback are sent by email. Explore personal reflections, short stories and more, while developing your unique voice and style.

Self-paced, no classes - join any time!

## Loneliness Awareness Week

### Join us for a special afternoon tea

Each year we mark this important week with a free community gathering – a chance to come together, hear from guest speakers, enjoy activities, and connect with others in a welcoming space. This special event is an opportunity to strengthen community connections, share conversations, and create a greater sense of belonging for everyone. This year's theme, *Make Room for Connection*, encourages us all to create space for meaningful conversations, shared experiences, and stronger community ties. Join us for a special afternoon tea of connection, kindness, and community spirit.

Thursday 6 August, 1:30pm - 3:00pm

**FREE**



*Natural History painting combines artistic creativity with scientific accuracy, often using live subjects or photos for reference. Techniques range from detailed work with microscopes to expressive wet-on-wet styles. Students explore various methods and techniques, guided by Nature in Art tutors to achieve accuracy while nurturing their unique style.*

## Terry Napier

Join Terry, an accomplished botanical artist and founder of the Nature in Art program, as he shares his expertise in Natural History watercolour painting. Terry has been teaching and sharing his talent for over 25 years. With his gentle and patient teaching style, Terry will guide you in the art of creating realistic depictions of plants, native animals, and birds, while helping you develop skills in painting techniques and colour mixing. Suitable for beginners and experienced students.

Monday 20 July - 7 September, 7:00pm – 9:30pm

8 weeks

Tuesday 21 July - 8 September, 9:30am - 12:00pm

8 weeks

Tuesday 21 July - 8 September, 1:00pm - 3:30pm

8 weeks

\$280



## Peta Harrington

Peta will guide you through the techniques needed to create realistic Natural History paintings using pencil and watercolour, focusing on flora and fauna as your subjects. Emphasising careful observation and technique, you will learn to capture the details and beauty of your subjects. Peta tailors her teaching to meet each student's individual skill level—from beginners to experienced—providing support and encouragement to help you refine your skills.

Wednesday 22 July - 9 September, 9:30am – 12:00pm

8 weeks

Friday Tuesday 24 July - 11 September, 9:30am – 12:00pm

8 weeks

\$240

## Peta McDonald

Explore the fascinating connection between Science and Art with Peta McDonald. This course is designed to equip you with the skills needed to accurately depict natural subjects through drawing. Beginner or experienced artist, these structured classes will guide you through sketching, shading with shading, recognising colours and adding texture and detail to your drawings. Starting with graphite and progressing to coloured pencils, you'll be amazed at what you can accomplish with a willingness to explore and experiment!

Wednesday 15 July - 9 September, 1:00pm - 3:30pm

9 weeks

Friday 17 July - 11 September, 1:30pm - 4:00pm

9 weeks

\$268.75

Regular group exercise is a great way to improve both physical health and mental well-being. Join us at Warrandyte South Hall for classes that are suitable for all fitness levels, led by our experienced and supportive instructors. **Enquire about a FREE trial session anytime!**

To register, select 'Free Trial' option for any health and fitness course at checkout via our website.

## Monday

### Yoga and Mindfulness

Yoga and mindfulness helps to improve focus and self-awareness. In these classes you will practice Hatha Yoga which involves exploration of breath, postures and meditation to reduce stress and anxiety. This wonderful, inclusive class is suitable for all levels and abilities.

Monday 6:30pm - 7:30pm  
July 13 - September 14, 10 weeks **\$170**



## Tuesday

### Yoga

Enjoy this practice, which is shown to reduce stress, improve flexibility, and increase mobility. Start your day and week right with this safe, inclusive, and encouraging class which is suitable for all levels of ability and experience.

Tuesday 9:30am - 10:30am  
July 14 - September 15, 10 weeks **\$170**



### Stay Fit/Live Fit

A fitness class suited for our 50+ community who are looking to keep or build strength and flexibility for functional health! Combine strength, fitness and balance training while making friends and having fun. The class will involve resistance exercises, and weight training to help develop self-confidence, flexibility and cardio health.

Tuesday 12:30pm - 1:30pm  
July 14 - August 11, 5 weeks **\$60**



## Wednesday

### Yoga

Increase your health and wellbeing with this relaxing yoga practice. This class incorporates breathing exercises, delivered at a gentle pace making it suitable for all ages and levels of fitness. Leave feeling uplifted, refreshed and energised.

Wednesday 1:30pm - 2:30pm  
July 15 - September 16, 10 weeks **\$170**

## Thursday

### Tai Chi

Tai Chi is a gentle exercise that combines slow, smooth movements and mindful breathing to relax the body and calm the mind. In this class, you'll learn a sequence of flowing movements designed to improve balance, coordination, and flexibility. Each session focuses on steady progress and relaxation. Suitable for beginners and those looking for low-impact movement.

Thursday 9:30am - 10:30am  
July 16 - September 17, 10 weeks **\$160**



### Rhythm & Movement

Movement not only stimulates our muscles and circulation but also supports mental health, boosts mood, and helps us express ourselves. This class combines structured and freestyle dance (including ballroom and global styles) with a focus on strength, control, and coordination. Join us for a fun, energising way to move your body, clear your head, and enjoy the rhythm.

Thursday 11:00am - 12:00pm  
August 13 - September 17, 6 weeks **\$100**



Are you a carer? Carers are people who provide unpaid care and support to family members and friends who have a disability, mental illness, chronic condition, terminal illness, an alcohol or other drug issue or who are frail aged. **Carers receive 5% off any course with the Carer Friendly logo.**



## Social Walking Group

Explore new and interesting places, and enjoy a walk as you meet new people and enjoy lunch together! Stay connected and fit while you connect with like-minded locals.

Third Thursday 9:30am - 1:30pm (monthly)

## Weekly Walkers

Join our local weekly walks for relaxation, fitness, or simply to connect with others.

Tuesday 9:00am - 10:00am (weekly)

## Beekeeping Club

Connect with local beekeepers and take part in activities, discussions, and projects, guest speakers, and gain confidence as a beekeeper.

First Tuesday 6:00pm - 7:00pm (monthly)

## Genealogy

Research and share knowledge about tracing your family tree.

First Saturday 2:00pm - 4:00pm (monthly)

## Garden Lovers

Help keep our garden beautiful in the company of other passionate gardeners!

Tuesday 10:30am - 12:00pm (weekly)

## Photography

Connect with fellow photography enthusiasts, share ideas, and embark on exciting photography adventures. *\*While our Club is free there is a \$6.00 per member annual Victorian Association of Photographic Societies affiliation fee*

First Thursday 7:00pm-8:30pm (monthly)

## Book Club

Connect with fellow book lovers and enjoy discussions about monthly reads in a relaxed setting!

First Monday 7:30pm - 9:00pm (monthly)

## Scones Together

Seniors, join us for this free social event. Enjoy scones, guest speakers, and fun activities.

First Monday of each month, 1:30pm - 3:30pm

## Acknowledgements

*Park Orchards Community House & Learning Centre Inc. (ABN: 18 790 057 404, INC: A0011092D) is a Registered Training Organisation (4008) and gratefully acknowledges funding support from:*

Neighbourhood Houses Victoria



Manningham City Council



Adult Community & Further Education (ACFE)



Accredited Training is delivered with Victorian and Commonwealth Government Funding



*Government Funded places will be offered to eligible applicants as indicated by the Department of Education and Training*

# Vocational Education & Training



Our courses are led by highly experienced trainers with extensive training and industry experience. They possess an in-depth understanding of adult learners, especially those who are returning to study. Our small class sizes provide personalised attention for each student. **UPDATE: You may be eligible for a government-subsidised place, even if you already have a higher qualification. \*Funding eligibility criteria apply and availability and criteria can change, so please check with us for the latest details.**

## Certificate III in School Based Education Support CHC30221

Are you interested in assisting children in schools? As a qualified Education Support Worker, you can pursue a fulfilling career in education, playing a vital role in supporting students with diverse learning needs and contributing to their educational journey. You will provide support to both teachers and students within the school environment. This nationally recognised training is ideal for employment as an Education Support Assistant, Support Worker for children with disabilities, or a Teacher's Aide. Additionally, this certificate can serve as a stepping stone for further study in the field of education.

### Classes in Park Orchards

Commencing 24 August 2026 (Monday and Wednesday), 9:15am - 3:15pm  
Face-to-face delivery

### Classes in Upper Ferntree Gully

Commencing 25 August 2026 (Tuesday and Thursday) 9:15am - 3:15pm  
Blended delivery

Funded \$438.99 | Funded concession \$276.85\*



## Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care CHC30125

Are you passionate about making a difference in children's early years? Discover a rewarding career that allows you to inspire and shape the future generation. Our nationally recognised and accredited Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care is your gateway to becoming an Early Childhood Educator, Kindergarten Assistant, Nanny, or working in Out of School Hours Care. This comprehensive course harnesses your creative and communication skills while providing essential knowledge for nurturing and supporting young children's development. Embark on a fulfilling journey in the early childhood industry and gain the vital skills needed to make a positive impact on young minds.

Commencing 24th November (Tuesday and Thursday), 9:15am - 3:15pm  
Flexible delivery, face-to-face or real-time via Zoom  
Funded \$493.66 | Funded concession \$286.12\*

## Identify and Report Children and Young People at Risk CHCPRT025

This refresher program helps qualified educators strengthen their skills in recognising and reporting abuse, neglect, or harm in children and young people. Designed for those in education, childcare, health, and community services, it covers legal and ethical responsibilities, workplace procedures, and key legislation. Participants learn to identify indicators, document and report concerns correctly, and communicate with authorities professionally. Completing this unit supports safe environments and duty of care obligations.

Enrol anytime - Delivered online, study in your own time. Refresher program, suitable for experienced ELC Staff.  
\$150

Group discount may be available, contact us for a quote.

## Certificate IV in Training and Assessment TAE40122



This nationally recognised and accredited course qualifies you to deliver nationally accredited vocational training in registered training organisations (RTOs), TAFE, enterprises, community organisations, and schools. You will develop skills in the design, delivery, and assessment of vocation-based training. After completing the course, you will have gained knowledge on how to perform competency-based assessments, develop learning programs based on national training packages, deliver presentations, train groups and individuals, and address learners' language, literacy, and numeracy skills.

Commencing 7 October 2026 (Wednesday), 9:00am - 4:30pm  
Funded \$895.50 | Funded concession \$368.25\*

*ACE Scholarship - The Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions is offering scholarships to support people pursuing a rewarding career as a pre-accredited (ACFE) trainer in Learn Local settings across Victoria. Enquire for more information\**

## Certificate IV in Training and Assessment TAE40122 - Upgrade

Now is the perfect time to upgrade to the latest TAE40122 qualification. Our upgrade program is designed specifically for experienced VET Trainers and Assessors who hold TAE40116 Certificate IV in Training and Assessment and have accrued at least two years of training experience delivering nationally recognised qualifications or units of competency within the past four years. This is an individual RPL process with no set intake dates, allowing you to enrol anytime and complete the process online, with no class attendance required.

Enrol anytime - study in your own time  
\$400 - \$500\* (variation based on units eligible for credit transfer)

## Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care CHC50125

Exceptional Early Childhood Educators have the power to shape a child's future, fostering success, well-being, and a lifelong love for learning. This course covers essential topics such as learning frameworks, child health and well-being, leading educational teams, and much more. You'll also build confidence in supporting diverse needs and creating meaningful learning experiences. Completing the Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care provides you with the opportunity to advance your career, deepen your knowledge, gain professional recognition, increase your earning potential and make a lasting impact as a leader in the field.

Commencing 18 September 2026 (Friday), 9:15am - 3:15pm  
Funded \$537\*

# Early Learning Centre

## Session Times

Our Early Learning Centre session times allow families able to choose pickup at either 1:00pm or 5:00pm for greater flexibility. This schedule is designed to offer more convenience and options for families, while giving children extra time to learn, play, and grow in a supportive and engaging environment.

## Sessions and Fees – Term 2, 2026

Monday to Friday

8:00am - 1:00pm \$93.75\*

8:00am - 5:00pm \$168.75\*

Annual Enrolment fee \$20

A SunSmart hat will be provided to each child.

\*Fees listed are before Child Care Subsidy (CCS) has been applied.

## One room, one team – present, engaged, and connected

Our not-for-profit Early Learning Centre operates as a multi-age group service, allowing children to learn from and with each other in a natural, community-focused environment. Our centre is one large, open floor space that encourages freedom of movement and collaboration, creating a safe and connected space for children to interact and connect.

The team offer our children flexible learning opportunities to enjoy the choice of both indoor and outdoor play spaces, encouraging active and meaningful exploration and supporting a healthy body and mind through play in a safe setting. We have been offering childcare for over 30 years, building strong connections with our families, and offering inclusive, flexible, and future-focused early education that prepares children for lifelong learning.

Our Educators offer stability, experience and engagement supporting children in our care. Our team of educators have been with us for many years which builds strong, trusting relationships with each child, supporting their individual development through our play-based program that fosters curiosity, creativity and exploration. Our educators' long-term commitment to our service helps create a consistent, nurturing environment where every child is known and valued. To maintain and ensure a high standard of care during staff absences, we have our own dedicated relief bank of casual Educators that are familiar faces who understand our routines, children, and our values.



The Early Learning Centre operates Monday to Friday during school terms. We welcome children aged 0-6 years and offer both permanent and casual booking options (dependant on availability), and you have the flexibility to tailor care to your needs. At our service, we believe in fair and transparent fees – you only pay for the care you use. We do not charge for public holidays or absences (with a minimum of 48 hours' notice given).



## School Holiday Childcare Sessions

We offer casual school holiday care during each of the term breaks throughout the year, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

This is also available for school-aged children not currently enrolled in our service (under 7 years of age).

Please contact [office@parkorchards.org.au](mailto:office@parkorchards.org.au) or call us for more information on (03) 9876 4381.

## NAIDOC Week – 5-12 July



This July, we will celebrate NAIDOC Week with a special art incursion for the children at our centre. Through creative experiences and shared learning, children will have the opportunity to explore and appreciate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, stories, and perspectives. We are proud to acknowledge NAIDOC Week and the importance of fostering respect, understanding, and connection within our learning community. You can learn more about NAIDOC week at [www.naidoc.org.au](http://www.naidoc.org.au).

## Red Nose Day – 27 August



Red Nose Day helps raise awareness of safe sleep practices and supports the vital work of reducing sudden infant deaths. At our Early Learning Centre, we are committed to providing a safe sleep environment for every child and guide families with safe sleep education and up-to-date practices. We are proud to support Red Nose Day and the important conversations it encourages around infant safety and wellbeing. To learn more or get involved, visit [www.rednoseday.org.au](http://www.rednoseday.org.au).

## Dental Health Week – 3-9 August

Dental Health Week raises awareness about the importance of caring for our teeth and gums and helps children and families build healthy habits for life. The campaign encourages positive daily routines and conversations around oral health in a fun and accessible way.

As part of Dental Health Week, we will be hosting a dental hygiene incursion at the centre, giving children the opportunity to learn about healthy teeth and brushing habits through engaging activities and discussions.

Families looking to access helpful resources and information to support positive oral health habits at home are encouraged to visit [www.teeth.org.au](http://www.teeth.org.au).

9876 4381

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